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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/19/2017

TAGS: PARM PREL ETTC

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON SERBIAN FIRM'S POSSIBLE BID TO SUPPLY  
MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO SYRIA

REF: SECSTATE 50277

Classified By: DCM Rod Moore, reasons 1.4 (b,c,d)

¶1. (s) Emboff delivered reftel demarche to Mladjan Mijovic, Acting Director of the office of arms control in the MFA on April 19. Mijovic said he understood fully the seriousness of the request, and promised to immediately circulate the information and request an investigation into the matter. He said the likely lead agency for the "on the ground" investigation would be the Security Intelligence Agency (BIA). Mijovic promised to pass on any information developed on this case as soon as he received it.

¶2. (s) Comment: Serbia has consistently proven willing and able to cooperate with us on export control issues, and is developing a rigorous export control regime that accords to EU standards. In past cases, both the MFA and the MoD, as well as major exporters like Yugoimport, have been extremely forthcoming with cases they thought might raise eyebrows in Washington. We anticipate their full and active cooperation in this case as well.

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